From: Warren Ponemon
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/19/02 2:34pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM, LLC

January 27, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I think that Microsoft is being far too generous in the recent antitrust case settlement. Microsoft in my opinion never made any antitrust violations. There positive contributions to our nation's economy have far outweighed any negative results of their actions. I am a proponent of free enterprise that thinks government should not interfere with the free market.

Fortunately, the terms of the settlement do not break up Microsoft. They do however give away much of their technological secrets to competitors, such as internal interfaces and protocols. Microsoft has also agreed to not retaliate against software developers or computer makers that develop or promote software that competes with Microsoft products.

Even though I think the settlement is flawed and unjustified, I also believe the settlement is in the bets interests of the American public because our nation cannot afford more litigation. We need our industry leaders innovating and growing to create jobs and more technological breakthroughs. Please take a firm stance against the opposition and make sure this settlement becomes a reality.

Sincerely,

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Warren E. Ponemon